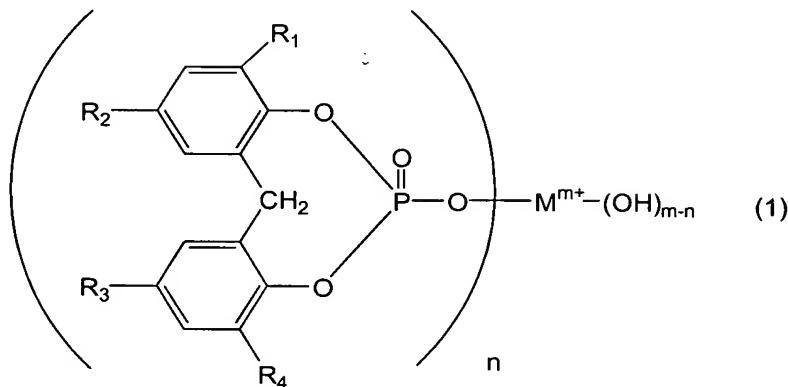


CLAIMS

1. A polylactic acid composition comprising polylactic acid and at least one metal phosphate of the formula:



wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ , and  $R_4$  each independently represents hydrogen or alkyl, which may be the same or different,  $M$  represents a metal atom, and  $m$  and  $n$  each independently represents an integer of 1 to 3 where the  $m$  is equal to or larger than  $n$ .

2. The polylactic acid composition according to Claim 1 wherein said metal phosphate is sodium 2,2-methylene-bis(4,6-di-tert-butylphenyl) phosphate or aluminum 2,2-methylene-bis(4,6-di-tert-butylphenyl) phosphate hydroxide.

3. The polylactic acid composition according to Claim 1 wherein said metal phosphate is in a fibrous or oriented form.

4. The polylactic acid composition according to Claim 1 wherein said metal phosphate is contained in amount of 0.1% to 2% by weight based on the weight of the polylactic acid.

5. The polylactic acid composition according to Claim 1 further comprising one or more filler selected from the group consisting of talc, graphite and silica.

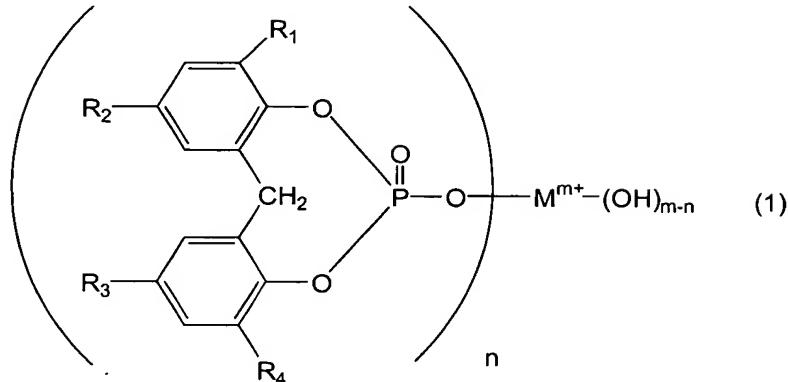
6. The polylactic acid composition according to Claim 1 further comprising fatty acid amide.

7. The polylactic acid composition according to Claim 1 further comprising one or more filler selected from the group consisting of talc, graphite and silica and fatty acid amide.

8. A polylactic acid product molded by molding the polylactic acid composition according to Claim 1, the product comprising a crystal structure having a crystallinity of 25% or more, a lattice spacing of 5.2 to 5.5 angstroms and a crystallite size of 400 angstroms or less.

9. A method for making a molded product of a polylactic acid comprising steps of:

kneading a polylactic acid and at least one metal phosphate of the formula:



wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ , and  $R_4$  each independently represents hydrogen or alkyl, which may be the same or different,  $M$  represents a metal atom, and  $m$  and  $n$  each independently represents an integer of 1 to 3 where the  $m$  is equal to or larger than  $n$ ,

to prepare a composition;

melting the kneaded composition and casting the composition in a mold; and

molding the composition by retaining the mold at a temperature within a crystallization temperature range of the polylactic acid.

10. The method according to Claim 9, further comprising a step of releasing the molded composition from the mold at the mold temperature.

11. The method according to Claim 9 wherein the crystallization temperature range of the polylactic acid is 80°C to 140°C.

12. A polylactic acid molded product made by the method according to Claim 9.